

Index to taped interview of Michel Bloch, 2/9/84

Time      Topic

0.0      Lead. Interviewer A. Kingsnorth. Language -- English. Setting local business. Interruptions non-existent, but background noise of customers and US airforce planes annoying.

1.45      Background.

Francophilia 2.45      Observes self-realization at early age that there is an advantage to being French outside of France. \*

US trip      3.45      Trip to US in early 1970's, despite greater interest in Nepal, Middle East etc. Culture shock. Very well received with free pizza and visits to a political convention in Georgia

5.45      Went out of way to visit Texas because of interest in horses and Westerns.

6.00      Visit to Santa Cruz in early seventies. Impressed with "freedom" experienced there.

6.45      Comments on difference between American and French styles of friendship.

BRIEF  
COLLATION.  
AK

7.0      Returned to France, 1972-1976. Lost interest in profession of photography and pace of life. Returned to ease of life in California.

Origin of      8.15      Started selling crêpes at craft shows using two small braziers. Participated in a wine festival in Sacramento and invited to stay. Previously when driving through, could not conceive how people could survive in Sacramento's heat.  
Crêpe  
Business

9.30      In the past not interested in money-making, but slowly became imbued with American millionaire aspirations.

Horse-      10.30      Backtrack at pressing of interviewer to fill in part of background not mentioned so far. Participated in international riding competitions as part of French Junior National team. Olympic caliber. Owned horse stables, but became fed up with the daily grind involved.  
riding

11.30      Trip to Texas to check out childhood visions of the American West. Discusses influence of Westerns and US (Hollywood) culture on European children.

12.30      Recounts experience of being adopted by a small Texan town.

13.30      Would like to ride now, but only possible if full time regular activity. (Researcher's comment: the Blochs in fact do ride fairly regularly locally)

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<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	
Causeries françaises	14.0	Size of Sacramento French population surprising. Discusses the female dominated, post- World War II French community. Causeries françaises characterized as intellectual in interest. *
Role of Crepe Daniel	15.0	Crêpe Daniel. Whole community wanders by at some point. *
L'Union gauloise		L'Union gauloise described as slightly younger than Causeries françaises. Recalls origin of L'Union gauloise. Mentions (Lucien) Jamet and (Claude) Letellier as founders. *
	16.30	Lot of work involved in holding the club together. Claims for a while women would attend the one club, males the other. Compares the club to a small gossiping village. *
	17.30	Discusses own enjoyment of an occasional completely French event, but mentions that he has other important sources of involvement also. Levels of involvement in the club differ. BRIEF DELETION ← AK
France	19.0	Compares US and French living conditions, particularly in terms of governmental assistance and security.
Travel	20.0	Degree of contact with France *
Clubs Compared	21.0	Looseness of Sacramento French community. French individualism. Comparison of the clubs. (Erroneous information about ages of the clubs. L'Union gauloise is four years old, Causeries is sixty years old. Researcher's notes) *
Crêpe Daniel	23.0	Style of Crêpe Daniel. *
Francophilia	26.0	Wants to organize group trips to France -- gourmet, wine tasting etc. *
	27.0	Comments on American ignorance of French culture. Lamentable. Deserves to be better known.
	28.0	Charming observation about gauge of own success; if sanitation worker orders a crêpe "regular" for lunch, and kids opt for croissants over other fast foods etc. *
	30.0	Cut off during discussion of present availability of French foods locally. *
French Community in Sacto.	B. 0.0	Is there a French Community in Sacramento? *
	1.0	New members *
	2.30	Subject and his businesses' relationship to newcomers *

Michel Bloch interview, 2/9/84 continued

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	
4.0	Discussion of which gallic peoples involved or not in club.	*
5.0	New topic. Change in subject's attitude to personal safety in view of exposure to American television. Misses French night life.	
Idealization of subject	8.0	New topic. Discussion of why subject has been described as typically French, or the best kind of French person (see for example Falconer interview and report.)
Bastille Day	10.30	Claims organized first Bastille Day celebration in Sacramento four years previously. (Researcher comment: in private subject's wife, Chris Bloch, claims she originated it). Discussion of plans for 1984 French week.
Competition	12.0	Discussion of amicable relationships between various French businesses. Mentions that Annik Vickers of the Movable Feast holds business meetings at subject's establishment. Mentions cook from Wulf's restaurant and from Aldo's.
Ethnic minorities	13.0	Discussion of French speaking ethnic minorities and racial prejudice.
	15.0	Thanks

\* Indicates comments useful accompaniment to report.